

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING SARAH BUSSINEAU FOR BEING NAMED THE MICHIGAN ASSOCIATION OF TEACHER EDUCATORS SECONDARY GRADES STUDENT TEACHER OF THE YEAR FOR 2020

HON. LISA C. McCLAIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 7, 2021

Mrs. McCLAIN. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize a future leader of my community, Sarah Bussineau of Macomb, for being named the Michigan Association of Teacher Educators Secondary Grades Student Teacher of the Year for 2020.

This award recognizes student teachers who have demonstrated outstanding performance during their student teaching tenure in an academic school year. Sarah's award-winning year took place at Cousino High School in Warren, where she taught band and choir students in grades 9–12.

Sarah's achievement is all the more impressive when you think of the dual task student teachers face in balancing teaching with their own educational pursuits. As a student herself during this time, Sarah pursued a degree and graduated in December 2020 from Oakland University. She took on both the role of teacher and student with passion, dedication and commitment. I know there were probably bumps in the road, but I hope Sarah is able to recognize her hard work has paid off.

Again, I congratulate Sarah on this well-deserved recognition. I wish her the best of luck as she begins her new job as a full-time teacher at St. Regis Catholic School in Bloomfield Hills, where she will teach general music, band and choir. I am confident Sarah will continue to excel and inspire in this exciting new role. We are proud of Sarah and we thank her for her dedication to our students, and we support her in her future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING 30 YEARS OF UZBEK INDEPENDENCE

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 7, 2021

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 30-year independence of Uzbekistan from the former Soviet Union and their progressive efforts to democratize and create a positive impact on the international stage. Since 1992 the United States and Uzbekistan have enjoyed strong diplomatic and economic relations. In recent years Uzbekistan has made significant steps in redirecting their actions towards furthering democratic, political, economic, and social reforms. I am proud to see Uzbekistan work towards such worthy goals.

In addition to domestic democratic actions Uzbekistan has made strides to increase

strong, robust diplomatic and economic relations with the United States. Currently, Uzbekistan and the U.S. maintain an important, multifaceted relationship that benefits both parties in the advancement of domestic and international interests. Uzbekistan remains a critical ally in the southeast Asian regions to stop the spreading Chinese influence.

Uzbekistan has been a participant in Annual Bilateral Consultations, which produced agreements on issues such as terrorism, regional security, trade, and human rights reform. The country also ambitiously laid out a night year plan, the "National Development Action Strategy on Five Priority Areas 2017–2021," which defines governance, judicial reform, economic progress, social development and a balanced foreign policy as key goals to work towards. Uzbekistan is on track with these goals as they are preparing for an election in the fall, are actively working to be a stabilizing force in Central Asia and have made great efforts to be a partner with the United States on the world stage.

I am proud to be a friend to the country of Uzbekistan and I congratulate them on marking 30 years of progress since leaving the Soviet Union. The strides made have brought Uzbekistan far and they have made a great ally on the world stage.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF IRENE B. WEST

HON. AMI BERA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 7, 2021

Mr. BERA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate the life of Irene B. West. Mrs. West was born on July 3, 1932 in Crowley, Louisiana and she graduated Valuedictorian of her high school class. She moved to Nashville, Tennessee where she met her late husband. Mrs. West received her Bachelor of Arts degree from California State University Sacramento (CSUS) and obtained a Master of Arts degree from the University of San Francisco.

Mrs. West, whose older sisters were teachers, was hired as the first black teacher in Elk Grove, CA in 1962. With virtually no representation in the area, she showcased true dedication to her career in education during the era of the Civil Rights movement. During her 27 years in service of the Elk Grove Community, she taught at James McKee and Florin Elementary schools and then served as principal at John Reith and Cosumnes River Elementary schools.

As a mother of four, Mrs. West was not only dedicated to her students and their education but raised talented and devoted children while working full time. In fact, The Sacramento Observer named her Mother of the Year in 1963. All her children excelled in their chosen fields of study, and two followed in her footsteps teaching at the Massachusetts Institute of

Technology (MIT) and Sunday school. We know she would be proud of their future endeavors as her children continue her legacy.

Because of her impact as a mother, educator, a wife and a pillar to society, Mrs. West has left a lasting legacy for the city of Elk Grove and will continue to inspire young women of color for generations to come.

I want to extend my condolences to the West family, and to everyone Mrs. West positively affected throughout her lifetime. I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the life of Irene B. West for her work in our community and her impact on our educational system.

INTRODUCTION OF THE COVID-19 MEMORIAL QUILT ACT OF 2021

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 7, 2021

Mr. CARSON. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to reintroduce the COVID-19 Memorial Quilt Act of 2021 to again honor all the victims of this pandemic with a national memorial quilt.

The horrors of the COVID-19 pandemic have touched every corner of our country, wreaking unprecedented devastation on Americans' lives. As I reintroduce this legislation today, COVID-19 has infected at least 32 million Americans. Tragically, this disease has quickly robbed our country of at least 578,000 of our fellow citizens. We need to remember that these numbers are not just statistics: they are people. They are our moms, dads, children, grandparents, neighbors, teachers, religious leaders and fellow Americans who have been taken from us due to this pandemic.

Moreover, these numbers do not capture the depth of this disease's devastation. While our television screens are often filled with images of empty streets and packed hospitals, we often don't see the private isolation and loneliness of the individual struggles against COVID-19. In order to slow the spread of this disease, our hospitals, nursing homes, funeral homes, and businesses have had to impose strict social distancing and protective measures. While necessary for our public health, these restrictions come at a great human cost and deepen the private pain caused by this disease.

For the thousands of brave patients fighting COVID-19, including the hospitalized patients, nursing home residents, and individuals at home in quarantine, the struggle against COVID-19 is a lonely, scary, and isolating fight. In hospitals and nursing homes, often a patient's only human contact is a health care worker in full personal protective equipment (PPE). Family, friends, and loved ones can't be there to provide comfort, to hold their hands, or to pray with them in this terrifying time. At best, loving words and support might be shared over the telephone or video call. At worst, there is only an isolating silence where

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

a loved one should be. These scars need to be acknowledged and hopefully healed.

The death toll from COVID-19 is even more wrenching. At least 112,000 Americans—whether in the hospital, the nursing home, or at home—have met the end of their lives without the comfort of their family, friends, or loved ones. Yesterday, more than 700 Americans died from this disease, and many were forced to close their eyes without the support of their loved ones nearby.

In my home state of Indiana, we have lost at least 12,966 Hoosiers to COVID-19 at nursing homes. We also know that African Americans are dying at disproportionate rates from COVID-19. African Americans in Indiana. Institutional racism, compounded by environmental and economic injustices, have made COVID-19 particularly devastating for African Americans. My heart grieves for my fellow Americans who took their last breath, because of this terrible disease, without the loving comfort and support they deserved.

For the family, friends, and loved ones of those who died from COVID-19, the isolation and loneliness brought by this disease only grows after their loved one's passing. Social distancing and the isolating fear of this disease prevent us from adequately honoring and memorializing the many victims of COVID-19. Large memorial services are not possible. Family gatherings to celebrate lost loved ones are curtailed, with supportive hugs replaced by six feet of distance and protective masks. Private funeral services—if not cancelled or postponed altogether—have often had to take place with only 10 people or less.

In addition to its sickness, death, and disruption, COVID-19 has robbed us of traditional ways of honoring our lost loved ones. Holding smaller funerals or forgoing them entirely because of social distancing measures has denied us the opportunity to fully celebrate the lives of the deceased. Our ability to publicly grieve together, and to adequately honor and celebrate the lost has been largely denied due to this isolating and frightening disease.

Many Americans will also remember another isolating and frightening disease: the AIDS epidemic. Ryan White, a brave and remarkable Hoosier, faced isolation and many frightening obstacles because of his AIDS diagnosis. However, Ryan's courage, bravery, and advocacy for AIDS research galvanized many in support of AIDS treatment, research and recognition of this disease's horrific impact. Since no official commemoration existed, concerned Americans decided to celebrate and honor the lives of those who died from AIDS—often isolated and alone—by creating a memorial quilt. As a result, in 1987, the NAMES Project AIDS Memorial Quilt was displayed and stretched the length of the National Mall. This remarkable quilt allowed us to honor and celebrate the lives of those tragically lost to a frightening disease, which at that time, had no cure, vaccine or effective treatment. More than 105,000 individual lives are commemorated through this quilt's 50,000 individual panels that contain photographs, correspondence, and news clippings to remember those who died from AIDS. In these panels, the memory of the victims were able to live on in public view.

Inspired by the brave advocacy and powerful legacy of the NAMES Project AIDS Memorial Quilt, I am proud to introduce the COVID-

19 Memorial Quilt Act of 2021. This legislation honors and celebrates the lives of those we have lost to the COVID-19 pandemic through the creation of a memorial quilt. Like the AIDS quilt, creating a memorial quilt to remember the lives lost due to COVID-19 will allow Americans to publicly grieve our lost loved ones, but also commemorate their lives in permanent, visible, and dignified way.

The COVID-19 Memorial Quilt Act of 2021 authorizes the design, creation, and display of a memorial quilt and other commemorative programming and exhibits to honor the victims of the COVID-19 pandemic. My legislation does this by creating a Congressional Advisory Panel which will submit plans to the Smithsonian Institution and the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress for how the quilt should be developed and displayed. Once complete, this memorial quilt will be displayed on the United States Capitol Grounds with a subsequent display on the National Mall and other locations, continuing the legacy of the AIDS quilt. This legislation also supports the powerful creativity of artists around the country by providing them with grants from the National Endowment of the Arts (NEA) to help design and prepare panels for the memorial quilt.

All Americans have been affected by COVID-19. All have felt the disruption wrought by this pandemic to our families, our workplaces, our businesses, our places of worship, and our social lives. But that is nothing compared to the Americans who have not only faced disruptions, but also the wrenching loss of loved ones from this disease. Because of social distancing and protective restrictions, we have been denied the ability to adequately honor, commemorate, and publicly celebrate those we have lost. And unfortunately, as more Americans continue to die in isolation from this disease, this deficit in our collective grief will only grow. As a result, my legislation builds on the powerful legacy of the NAMES Project AIDS Memorial Quilt and will help our country to collectively grieve and appropriately honor the victims of COVID-19.

Madam Speaker, I hope my colleagues will join us in supporting the COVID-19 Memorial Quilt Act of 2021, and I urge the House to support this legislation.

HONORING TRISH BERGREN AS IOWAN OF THE WEEK

HON. CYNTHIA AXNE

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 7, 2021

Mrs. AXNE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Trish Bergren of Clarinda, Iowa as Iowan of the Week. Trish is a respected leader in the Clarinda and Page County community who has touched countless lives through her work as the Executive Director of the Clarinda Carnegie Art Museum and as the curator for the Nodaway Valley Historical Museum. Trish has a deep love, and passion for preserving the history of her community and being a guardian of the knowledge of the past for future generations.

Trish's family is no stranger to Page County and has family roots in the area that go back more than 160 years. This deep-seated passion for local history and helping young people

engage in this history drove her to a career she loves and even a book that covers the subject. Despite having moved away from the area for a time, she made the decision to return and couldn't imagine being anywhere else. Her love for the community she works is truly heartwarming to hear. Those who work with her claim she has both improved their lives and changed their outlook for the future for the better.

As part of her duties with the Historical Museum, Trish formed the Adopt-A-Grave program in 2013. The program, under the Historical Society, has worked to clean, find lost headstones, and rehab more than 750 headstones across the 50 pioneer cemeteries in Page County. This undertaking has a group of students at Clarinda High School who manage the program, while more than 39 students and 12 adults have assisted with various projects. This is just one tangible initiative run by Trish to give dignity to the history of those who came before us and ensure the pride the community holds in honoring the past.

In addition to her already busy service to the community, Trish serves on the Clarinda School Board, where she was elected in 2019 as a new member.

In consideration of the dedication to serving the community, Trish is a pillar of the community in not only Clarinda but the State of Iowa. Her reputation as a kind and selfless person precedes her and her work speaks for itself. Clarinda is a strong community because of the individuals, like Trish, who make it such a wonderful place. The work Trish has performed, and that which she has inspired others to take upon themselves will ensure that the history of the community will endure. Stemming from this dedication to serve the community and preserve the story of its past for future Iowans to learn from and enjoy, I am proud to recognize Trish Bergren as Iowan of the week.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF MEMBERS OF THE SIKH COMMUNITY AND ALL THOSE AFFECTED BY THE FEDEX SHOOTING IN INDIANAPOLIS

HON. VICTORIA SPARTZ

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 7, 2021

Mrs. SPARTZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor eight Hoosier lives lost at the FedEx facility in Indianapolis. I joined my fellow Indiana delegation members in leading our colleagues in a moment of silence on the house floor in their honor on April 21, 2021.

Of the eight lives lost, four of those individuals belonged to the Sikh community in central Indiana. This community is small and tight knit. They are friends and colleagues who work together and worship together. The loss this community is feeling in the wake of this tragedy is unimaginable. I stand with the Sikh community and all those affected by this senseless act of violence.

My deepest condolences are with all the families and friends who are experiencing unimaginable pain and loss. Our state and Nation mourn with them.

IN RECOGNITION OF LIEUTENANT ALLEN H. TOMLIN, JR., FOR RECEIVING THE ROBERT JACKSON EURY MEMORIAL AWARD

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 7, 2021

Mr. HUDSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Kannapolis Police Department's Lieutenant Allen H. Tomlin, Jr. for receiving the Robert Jackson Eury Memorial Award.

A native of Concord, North Carolina, Lieutenant Tomlin began his career with the Cabarrus County Sheriff's Office in July 1997. He joined the Kannapolis Police Department in September 1998, serving as a Field Training Officer from September 2000 until becoming a Master Police Officer in January 2011. Shortly afterward, he was promoted to Sergeant, and then made Lieutenant in June 2019. Allen is a member of KPD's Special Response Team as a trained negotiator.

Allen holds an Advance Law Enforcement Certificate from the N.C. Criminal Justice Education and Training Standards Commission and has completed more than 3,007 hours of professional training. Kannapolis Police Chief Terry Spry refers to Allen as a quiet hero who truly embraces a servant leadership philosophy, serving with exceptional character, courage, and commitment.

The Robert Jackson Eury Memorial Award is presented in memory of Robert Jackson Eury, a man who lost his life in the line of duty while serving as a Cabarrus County law enforcement officer. This award keeps Mr. Eury's legacy alive through officers who share his same admirable and commendable spirit in Cabarrus County. Lt. Tomlin fits the mold of esteemed law enforcement officers in our community set by Robert Eury, and there is no doubt in my mind that Lt. Tomlin will continue his outstanding leadership and maintain his unwavering values while protecting and serving the people of Cabarrus County; I am excited to see what the future holds for such a dedicated law enforcement professional.

Madam Speaker, please join me today in congratulating Lt. Allen H. Tomlin, Jr. for receiving the Robert Jackson Eury Memorial Award. We all wish him well as he continues to make a positive impact on our community.

HONORING CHESTER WILSON

HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 7, 2021

Mr. BARR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Chester Wilson from Lexington, Kentucky. Mr. Wilson bravely served our nation during World War II. He currently resides at Thomson-Hood Veterans Center in Wilmore, Kentucky. On April 25, Mr. Wilson celebrated his 107th birthday.

Mr. Wilson graduated from Lexington's Bryan Station High School. He was the first member of his family to graduate. At the age of 29, he enlisted in the United States Navy. He served aboard the U.S.S. *Benevolence*, a Navy hospital ship, in the Pacific Theater. He was a pharmacist mate 3rd class.

After the war, Mr. Wilson worked as a federal agent at bourbon distilleries and later worked for the Treasury Department. He retired in 1974. He and his late wife Margaret have a daughter, Brenda Wilson, a stepson Jack Whitaker, and two grandchildren.

It is my honor to recognize this amazing patriot, celebrate his 107th birthday, and appreciate him for his service and sacrifice to our nation during World War II. As a part of "The Greatest Generation", Mr. Wilson was an important part of the war effort to preserve the freedoms that we enjoy today. I am forever grateful for Americans like Chester Wilson.

HONORING THE 15TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CALIPSO SATELLITE MISSION

HON. ELAINE G. LURIA

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 7, 2021

Mrs. LURIA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the CALIPSO satellite mission upon the 15th anniversary of its space-based lidar measurements. CALIPSO's unique observations have revolutionized our knowledge of the vertical distributions of clouds and of layers of dust, smoke, and pollution. These findings have also greatly improved our understanding of how these vertical distributions affect climate, weather, and air quality. CALIPSO data are widely used by the international science community and academia, and this data has contributed to significant new findings by state and U.S. government agencies, including NASA, the NOAA, the DoD, the USDA, and the EPA.

CALIPSO measurements are the foundation of over 3200 peer-reviewed publications that have appeared since the mission launched on April 28, 2006—a tremendous accomplishment for a first-of-its-kind measurement system. Furthermore, CALIPSO discoveries now appear in textbooks for the next generation of climate scientists.

NASA Langley Research Center in Hampton, Virginia, manages CALIPSO with operations accomplished through a strong and enduring partnership with the French Space Agency, Centre National d'Etudes Spatiales (CNES). The mission's longevity and scientific success is a testament to international collaboration, especially when it is employed to solve global issues.

NASA Langley is now looking forward to developing new instruments needed to improve our understanding of extreme weather events and regional climate change. The next generation spaceborne lidar, which has been identified for a new observing system, will build upon knowledge and experience gained from CALIPSO and will benefit from innovative technology developments now underway at NASA Langley.

CALIPSO continues to be an on-going tribute to NASA's tremendous can-do spirit and engineering excellence. While CALIPSO began its challenging mission with an expected lifetime of only 3 years, it has continued to deliver valuable measurements for 15 years. The longevity of the mission and the large number of scientific discoveries emerging from CALIPSO is a huge credit to the project and to the Agency.

With these many accomplishments, it is my honor to recognize the 15th anniversary of CALIPSO's launch, and I wish the international mission team continued success in the future.

RECOGNIZING PROFESSOR MICHAEL ROCHE

HON. DUSTY JOHNSON

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 7, 2021

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Professor Michael Roche of Vermillion as the first recipient of the Spirit of South Dakota Award.

The Spirit of South Dakota Award was created to celebrate and honor South Dakotans that display unusual perseverance, compassion, and innovation, and are beloved by their community.

Michael Roche has been a professor at the University of South Dakota since 1974 where he taught courses on criminal justice and criminal law. During his nearly fifty years of teaching, Roche has made a lasting impact on students and faculty alike. Among his list of impressive accomplishments, he was named the 2001 South Dakota Professor of the year by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching.

Roche is also the author of numerous books and articles on the criminal justice system and worked extensively inside the South Dakota penal system. I can say with certainty that South Dakota's criminal justice system is better off because of his work.

While Professor Roche may be retiring from USD, he is leaving behind a legacy in the halls of USD and in the hearts of his students. Professor Roche truly exemplifies the Spirit of South Dakota and I'm honored to present him with the first award.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF BILLY F. MURPHY

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 7, 2021

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the service of Colonel Billy F. Murphy of Tupelo. He has served honorably in the Mississippi Air National Guard, and I join my fellow guardsmen in celebrating his commitment to this country the State of Mississippi.

Colonel Murphy is a Tupelo native and graduated from Tupelo High School. In 1991 he was commissioned in the U.S. Navy through the University of Mississippi Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps. Over the course of his service, he has accumulated more than 1500 flight hours. During his active duty, he participated in 49 combat flight missions in support of operations Souther Watch, Deny Flight and Desert Strike. Colonel Murphy has served nearly 30 years in the United States Military in three different branches. In 2018 he was promoted to the rank of Colonel and began his service as director of staff at the Mississippi Air National Guard. In July of

2019, Governor Bryant appointed Col. Murphy as the commander of the Mississippi Air National Guard's 186th Air Operations Group. He was also made responsible for developing a Space Task Force. Colonel Murphy lives with his wife, Angela, and two children, Zach and Kathryn.

I am deeply grateful for Colonel Murphy's lifetime of service to this great state and wish him well in this new chapter of his life.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE
OF WASHINGTON STATE SEN-
ATOR DR. PAULL SHIN

HON. MARILYN STRICKLAND

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 7, 2021

Ms. STRICKLAND. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Dr. Paull H. Shin, who passed away on April 12, 2021, at the age of 85. Dr. Shin was an extraordinary public servant and community leader in Washington State.

Born in Korea in 1935, Dr. Shin became an orphan at a young age. As a teenager, he began his long career in service by working for U.S. Army officers stationed on the Peninsula during the Korean War. After his adoption by Dr. Ray Paull, he came to the United States and quickly obtained his G.E.D., B.A. in Political Science from Brigham Young University, an M.P.I.A. from the University of Pittsburgh, and both an M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of Washington. Dr. Shin went on to teach for over three decades at Shoreline Community College in Washington.

In 1992, Dr. Shin became the first Korean-American elected to the Washington State Legislature, where he served for nearly two decades representing the people of Washington's 21st Legislative District. As a lawmaker, Dr. Shin always sought to give back to others, serving as a dedicated and respected voice for not only the Korean-American community, but all marginalized and underserved community members. Dr. Shin was especially passionate about advocating for people with disabilities, immigrants, military veterans, education, trade, and economic development.

Madam Speaker, Dr. Shin's lasting legacy truly exemplifies strength, perseverance, and selfless service to others. I offer my heartfelt condolences to his wife Donna, two children, five grandsons, three great-grandchildren, his adopted American family, his four brothers and one sister, and all of his loved ones. Dr. Paull Shin was a highly respected member of our community, and will be dearly missed by all who knew him.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF
MICHAEL G. KRAUSE

HON. RALPH NORMAN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 7, 2021

Mr. NORMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Mr. Michael G. "Moose" Krause, an outstanding individual who tragically passed away on October 28, 2020 at the age of 48.

Born on August 13, 1972, Michael was raised in Wayne, New Jersey by two loving parents, Michael and Loretta Krause. He graduated from Wayne Hills High School and obtained a Bachelor of Science in Aerospace Engineering from the United States Military Academy at West Point. While at West Point, Michael led the Army football team to three paramount victories over Navy as an offensive guard. He later received a Master of Business Administration degree from the University of Hawaii.

Michael served over 21 honorable years in both the United States Army and the Maryland Army National Guard, achieving the rank of Major. With a passion for flying and spending time in the cockpit, Michael flew various aircrafts as an Army helicopter pilot. Michael would go on to earn numerous decorations throughout his military career, including the Bronze Star Medal, Army Air Medal, Air Force Air Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal, and Army Achievement Medal.

Michael retired from the Army in 2015 and began serving as Regional Vice President with Primerica Financial Services. Operating a financial brokerage, he invested long hours in teaching middle class families how to support themselves long-term. Michael was happily married to Jillian Chevalier and had three wonderful sons named MJ, Bobby, and Billy. He was a remarkable husband, father, and friend who chose to dedicate his life to humbly serving others. While Michael will be greatly missed, I am certain that his presence will live on in the lives of many for years to come.

HONORING CAMILLE CASTEEL

HON. GREG STANTON

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 7, 2021

Mr. STANTON. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the legacy of Chandler Unified School District Superintendent Dr. Camille Casteel, who is retiring after 50 years of service. During her tenure, she touched the lives of hundreds of thousands of students. As a teacher, administrator, and superintendent, Dr. Casteel has been a pillar of our community and a one-of-a-kind leader. She devoted her professional life to ensuring that every student who walks the halls of a Chandler school is provided a quality, equitable, and impactful education—and our entire state is better today because of her leadership.

A native Arizonan, Dr. Casteel spent her entire career advocating for her students. In 1971, she started as a first-grade teacher when Chandler—mostly a community a farms and ranches—was home to just seven small schools with no air conditioning. Casteel spent the next five decades with CUSD, including 25 years as the district's Superintendent, and under her leadership, CUSD became one of the largest districts in the state. There, Dr. Casteel oversaw the development of 30 new schools to serve the more than 46,000 students who attend Chandler schools every day.

For 50 years, Dr. Casteel has remained a trailblazer in the Chandler community. She has fought to ensure her students and staff have the tools and resources they need to be

successful in the classroom and a safe and caring place to learn. She developed innovative solutions for the challenges that inevitably come with a rapidly growing community and school district—and most recently, she led CUSD through the unprecedented challenges wrought by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Her kindness, compassion, and commitment to excellence will be felt by future generations who pass through the Chandler Unified School District. Because of Dr. Casteel, Chandler's students will continue to receive a comprehensive, quality education that prepares them for ventures beyond their school days.

Arizona owes a debt of gratitude to Dr. Casteel. Her devotion to strengthening our community's public education system will be felt long after her retirement. In this spirit of gratitude, I rise today to honor the esteemed career of Dr. Camille Casteel and wish her the best in wherever life takes her next.

IN RECOGNITION OF MICHIGAN'S
CARIBBEAN AMERICAN HERIT-
AGE MONTH

HON. RASHIDA TLAIB

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 7, 2021

Ms. TLAIB. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Caribbean American Heritage Month and celebrate the work of Caribbean-American descendants and culture across the 13th Congressional District.

National Caribbean American Heritage Month began in 1999 with outreach to President Bill Clinton asking for the recognition of August as National Caribbean American Heritage Month. This resulted in the first White House Caribbean American Community Briefing being held at the Clinton White House in 1999. In June 2000, the Institute of Caribbean Studies (ICS) took leadership of the project, organizing numerous events in Washington, D.C. In 2001, ICS, in collaboration with TransAfrica Forum and the Caribbean Staff Association of the World Bank, continued to organize events during June, promoting recognition of June as National Caribbean American Heritage Month, bringing even more interest in National Caribbean American Heritage Month.

The effort gained even more traction in 2004 when an Official Campaign for June as National Caribbean American Heritage Month was launched upon the tabling of a Bill in the US Congress by Congresswoman BARBARA LEE, with language provided by ICS Founder and President, Dr. Claire Nelson. ICS worked with the Office of Congresswoman BARBARA LEE to galvanize support for the Bill from organizations across the country and organized events on Capitol Hill in recognition of June in 2004. The Bill was reintroduced and passed the House in June 2005, and the Senate in February 2006. A Proclamation making the Resolution official was signed by President George Bush on June 5, 2006.

Please join me in recognizing National Caribbean American Heritage Month and the contributions of Caribbean Americans in our country and in the 13th Congressional District.

IN HONOR OF KEN WHITE

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 7, 2021

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ken White, the recently retired Executive Director of the Peninsula Humane Society. As Mr. White noted, he was retiring on his 469th birthday, as measured in dog years. He joined the Peninsula Humane Society in 2002 and his successes at this organization have been historic for this beloved organization.

Upon his arrival, Ken White and the Peninsula Humane Society guaranteed a home to every adoptable dog or cat in their care, a promise they have kept ever since. In 2003, the organization expanded its promise to include as many ill and injured and behaviorally challenged pets as possible. In 2005, the Humane Society purchased a mobile veterinary clinic and provided spay/neutering surgeries for animals in some of the most underserved communities in the county.

More than 22,000 households contribute to the work of the Peninsula Humane Society. The euthanasia rate has decreased 98 percent since 1970. 1200 volunteers allow PHS to function as an integral part of our community.

In 2006, Ken and his board bought an old Burlingame warehouse. Through a major gift and the loving care of volunteers, they were able to open this facility as the Center for Compassion to house charitably funded programs through state-of-the-art facilities. The progress is amazing. When Ken arrived in our community, the percentage of animals released live back into the community was 53 percent. Today, it is 89 percent. There are tens of thousands of peninsula animals who found their forever-home thanks to the kind heart and amazing fundraising talents of Ken White.

Not content to be an over-achieving humane organization, Ken, his board, employees and volunteers have set a reach goal. The organization now owns 260 acres of land in San Mateo County which will be turned into an animal sanctuary. It will be the first in our nation owned and operated by a humane society.

Ken has seen a tortoise survive being driven over by a vehicle, and today that tortoise thrives as Ken's pet. He watched a falcon be released into the wild after severe injuries were healed. Reptiles have been visitors to his home. He and his apparently patient wife, Lisa Crane, have also taken in a pot-bellied pig and an Argentinian horned frog. If there was a wild party at Ken's home and the noise ever got to be too much, I'm sure there was always a pet or two that was more than willing to lay down the law to Ken.

Ken White got into the business of running animal shelters from an unusual background. He holds a Master's Degree in creative writing. After a series of jobs, he was eventually invited to create educational materials for a local shelter. As a child he was never allowed to own a pet, but then as a young man he was suddenly surrounded by animals. It was love at first sight.

As he leaves his longtime position, he goes out on a national high note. The 260 acre sanctuary in the San Mateo County mountains

will be for medically or behaviorally challenged dogs and cats with low adoption rates. This facility will be a huge step forward for those that are able to live out a full life, but without troublesome humans and their nitpicking rules as preconditions. So goes the dream of San Mateo County's Dr. Doolittle, the man who talks to our animals. I have long admired Ken White for his ingenuity and can-do spirit. The San Mateo community and I wish him well as he leaves his avid fans, of all breeds, behind. Undoubtedly there's a movie about Ken that will someday be released on Netflix: Ken White: Lifesaver, Tortoise Daddy and Snake Whisperer. Watch for it, streaming soon.

**CONGRATULATING CAPTAIN MARK
MCDANIEL ON HIS RETIREMENT
FROM THE DOWNEY POLICE DE-
PARTMENT**

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 7, 2021

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and thank Captain Mark McDaniel as he retires from the Downey Police Department on Thursday, May 13, 2021.

Captain Mark McDaniel began his career with the Downey Police Department from April 1990 to August 1991 as a police aide. He attended the Los Angeles County Sheriffs Academy and graduated as a Downey police officer in 1991. Mark was promoted to the rank of captain on May 7, 2018. He currently oversees the Downey Police Department Field Operations Division.

From August 1991 to August 2005, Mark served as a police officer, field training officer, police corporal, and patrol supervisor. He has also worked as a detective in the Downey Police Department Gang Unit and in the Special Enforcement Team (SET) assisting with the recruitment and background investigations of all police department employees.

Mark served as the administrative sergeant from August 2005 to May 2010, during which time he supervised, trained, and mentored sworn officers and professional staff throughout the organization; oversaw the department's accounts payable and equipment purchasing; and supervised other programs as needed throughout the organization.

Mark served as a lieutenant in the Downey Police Department from May 2010 to May 2018. During this time, he has served as a patrol watch commander and detective bureau lieutenant, where he served as the department's public information officer. Mark managed and provided leadership to field operations personnel; the department's Field Training Program; and implemented the department's Mental Health Team. In addition to being the officer in charge of managing and leading the Detective Bureau, he also managed and prepared multi-million dollar budgets for the Patrol and Detective Bureaus. Mark also co-founded the department's PEER Support Team.

In his most recent position, Captain McDaniel is the commanding officer of both the Detective Bureau and the Administration Division. He also serves as executive leader and command staff; manages the recruitment

and hiring of all department personnel; provides strategic and multimillion dollar budgetary planning and management; participates in labor negotiations and employee conflict resolution; manages vehicle fleet operation; ensures good public relations with various community organizations; ensures adherence to policies, rules, and procedures; mentors all personnel; and inspires those in his charge to reach goals and better the organization.

In addition to his responsibilities at work, Mark also volunteers in the Downey community. He belongs to Gangs Out of Downey and was elected twice as president in 2016–17 and 2017–18. He has also been a member of the Downey Kiwanis club since 2017; a founding member of the Downey Police and Fire Foundation; president of the Downey Police Management Association; and a board member of the Friends of the Downey Police Mounted Unit Foundation.

Captain Mark McDaniel was born in the city of Downey and was raised in Cerritos. He is a graduate of Cerritos High School. Mark earned a bachelor's degree in occupational studies from California State University, Long Beach and holds a master's degree in emergency services administration. Mark is also a graduate of the Sherman Block Supervisory Leadership Institute and the Los Angeles Police Department Leadership Program.

Mark enjoys spending time with his wife Lorena, his two sons Mark, Jr. and Nicholas, and his daughter Mia; camping and fishing; and is an avid Dallas Cowboys and UCLA Bruins football fan.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in thanking and congratulating Captain Mark McDaniel for his many years of exemplary leadership and outstanding service to our community. Let us wish him many happy years of retirement.

REMEMBERING ARNOLD PERL**HON. STEVE COHEN**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 7, 2021

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay my respects to a great civic leader of Memphis, Arnold E. Perl, who passed on Tuesday. A labor and employment lawyer for more than 40 years, Mr. Perl served on the Memphis and Shelby County Airport Authority, including 16 years as its chairman, where he advocated the idea of an aerotropolis linking the airport to the commerce of our city. He was also a past General Counsel of the Tennessee Chamber of Commerce & Industry as well as Secretary and General Counsel of the Greater Memphis Regional Chamber. Mr. Perl served as the Chairman of the New Arena Public Building Authority, which built the \$250 million FedEx Forum. Very active in the Jewish community, he served as the 45th President of Temple Israel from 2006 to 2008. Mr. Perl also served on the Board of Trustees of the University of Tennessee from 1996 to 2002 and was supportive of the Hope Scholarship funded by the state lottery I worked to establish as a state senator. For his efforts founding the Japan-Tennessee Society and his contributions to Japanese-American relations, he was honored in 2007 with membership in the Order of the Rising Sun by the Emperor of Japan. In 2006,

he published *Simple Solutions: Harness the Power of Passion and Simplicity to Get Results* with FedEx's Tom Schmitt about best practices in business leadership. Mr. Perl founded the law firm Young and Perl, was a partner in the law firm Ford and Harrison, and he later became a member of the law firm Glankler Brown. Memphis has lost a fine leader. I extend my condolences to his wife Mary Lynn, his daughters Stephanie Perl Marks and Laurie Perl Meskin and their husbands, his extended family and his many friends.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF
BRADFORD FREEMAN

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 7, 2021

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life and service of Mr. Bradford Freeman, a member of the Greatest Generation and a true hero. He belonged to Company E, 506th Parachute Infantry Regiment under the 101st Airborne Division, also known as Easy Company. Their exploits were memorialized in the HBO mini-series "Band of Brothers."

Mr. Freeman was born in Mississippi on September 4, 1924. He started his freshman year at Mississippi State University before enlisting in the Army in December of 1942. He finished his freshman year and reported in April 1943. He first reported to Camp Shelby, and then Fort McClellan for 13 weeks of basic training. He trained as a paratrooper at Fort Benning, Georgia. In North Carolina, he joined the 541st which evolved into the 101st.

After midnight on D-Day, nineteen-year-old Freeman made his first combat jump. On June 5, 1944 he boarded a C-47, among a fleet of 87 aircraft, and travelled across the English channel over Normandy. German anti-aircrafts broke the soldier's silence. He jumped from the aircraft at 200 miles per hour, 100 miles per hour faster than normal jump speed. Freeman landed safely and was assigned to guard a crossroads near the Breccourt Manor farm, where the battalion would later take out four German artillery pieces. He heard Navy shells flying overhead towards targets further inland.

Freeman served for two years, 11 months and 20 days in the United States Army and left the service as a private first class. He returned home to his family on December 2, 1945. He reunited with his childhood friend Willie Gurley, and the two were married in 1947. They had two daughters, Beverly Clark and Rebecca Louis. After over 60 years of marriage, Willie passed away in 2008. After returning from war, Mr. Freeman returned to farming. He loved to hunt, fish, and sit on his front porch.

I am deeply grateful for Bradford Freeman's lifetime of service to this country and the state of Mississippi. His sacrifices will never be forgotten, and his service always revered.

ADDRESSING THE SITUATION IN
KAZAKHSTAN CONCERNING
KLEPTOCRACY

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 7, 2021

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity today to recognize the importance of the bilateral relationship between the United States and Kazakhstan. Following the dissolution of the Soviet Union, the United States, on December 25, 1991, was the first country to recognize Kazakhstan's independence. Thereafter, the Clinton Administration facilitated the entry of Kazakh oil to the world market via the CPC export pipeline. American companies were the first to enter the Kazakh economy but were soon pushed aside from the most attractive projects, such as Chinese companies which have invariably won international tenders for privatized assets.

I rise today to express my growing concern over an article published by author Tom Burgis. The article contains information surrounding leaked documents that indicate the former Kazakh president's son-in-law, Timur Kulibayev, designed a scheme that would result in him receiving tens of millions of dollars from contracts related to a multibillion-dollar gas pipeline between Central Asia and China.

The Asia Gas Pipeline project was to accelerate a shift of economic power from the West to the East. Built jointly by Kazakhstan and China, these pipelines would stretch around 2000 miles and be funded by Chinese loans. "The first two lines would cost \$7.5bn, with a third to follow for some \$3bn and a fourth after that."

Author Tom Burgis states, "Mr. Kulibayev, who has served on the Russian energy giant's board since 2011, is the son-in-law of the former Kazakh president and has wide-ranging business interests, from banking to mining and real estate. As one of the most powerful officials in the country, he oversaw the state companies that awarded contracts to build the pipelines across Kazakhstan. Emails sent between 2008 and 2014 and leaked by a whistleblower contain detailed descriptions of a set-up that it appears would allow Mr. Kulibayev to receive a share of the profits from pipeline contracts granted to ETK, a company owned by Russian businessman Alexander Karmanov."

This is not Timur Kulibayev's first time coming to the attention of the West. In 2007, it was revealed that he was the mystery buyer of a multimillion-dollar Sunninghill Park estate that the Queen had given Prince Andrew as a wedding present. He also has faced money-laundering allegations in a Swiss case, which was eventually dropped.

The United States currently spends about \$115 million a year on global anti-corruption programs. Unfortunately, many of the funds we put toward anti-corruption efforts get trapped in multi-year technical programs that are unable to respond nimbly to sudden opportunities for governance reform. If the United States does intervene, authoritarian kleptocrats will gain ground. The United States needs to be proactive in developing strategic relationships and agile programs that will keep us relevant in moments of historic opportunity.

Recently, U.S. Senator BEN CARDIN (D-Md.) and Senator ROGER WICKER (R-Miss.), incoming Chair of the U.S. Helsinki Commission and Co-Chair, respectively, introduced the Countering Russian and Other Overseas Kleptocracy (CROOK) Act to upgrade America's anti-corruption efforts by targeting kleptocracy at the source. The CROOK Act would create an anticorruption action fund to help activists leverage public sentiment to achieve lasting reform, without any additional cost to taxpayers. The fund would be financed through a \$5 million surcharge on entities found liable for \$50 million or more in criminal fines and penalties under the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA). Based on data from the last 10 years, this bill would put an additional \$16 million per year toward global anti-corruption work. Funds would continue to accrue until a historic window of opportunity opens, at which point funds would be rapidly deployed to help establish the rule of law.

Fighting corruption is an imperative for the United States. As a beacon of liberty and the rule of law, it is our duty and the purest expression of our values. It is also a highly practical form of soft power that advances our national security. As Kazakhstan is aspiring to be a strategic partner of the United States, I call on my colleagues to join me in urging the Biden Administration to review this case of kleptocracy and corrupt officials from Kazakhstan and assure that it will be included in our Government's discussions regarding this important part of the world.

HONORING SAM AND ARLENE
DANIELS

HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 7, 2021

Mr. BARR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. and Mrs. Sam Daniels from Wellington, Kentucky.

Sam and Arlene Daniels visited in Kentucky in 1999. The trip resulted in the purchase of a home and a move to rural Menifee County. This move placed them on a path that led to assisting people in need by feeding the hungry in their area.

In 2001, Arlene Daniels was called by God to start a food pantry at their church, Dayspring. Her sister-in-law donated \$2500 to help start the pantry in memory of Sam's brother Albert Daniels. Pastor Andy Timblin shared the food pantry idea with the congregation and a visitor offered a \$1,000 donation. On May 14, 2001, the Dayspring Food Pantry became a reality.

For twenty years, community support and grants have brought much needed funds to the Dayspring Food Pantry. The pantry now helps over 400 families a month and has community partnerships with senior citizens, schools, churches, and other agencies to lend a hand to those in need. The Daniels have served as directors of the pantry since its beginning. Led by their strong faith, Brother Sam Daniels and Sister Arlene Daniels have impacted their community for generations to come.

On the 20th anniversary of the founding of Dayspring Food Pantry, it is my honor to recognize these amazing people and thank them

for their leadership, their dedication, and their compassion for others. Sam and Arlene Daniels are real difference makers for people in Menifee County and an inspiration to us all.

AMERICA'S STRENGTH LIES IN
THE RISE OF PROFILES OF
COURAGE WHEN THEY ARE
MOST NEEDED

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 7, 2021

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I am a proud progressive Texas Democrat in the tradition of the late Governor Ann Richards and my predecessors Barbara Jordan and Mickey Leland so it may hurt more than help them to say that Congresswoman LIZ CHENEY of Wyoming, the third-ranking Republican in the House, Senator MITT ROMNEY, the 2012 Republican standard-bearer, and President George W. Bush, the last Republican president to amass a popular vote majority, exceed 50 percent in approval ratings, and win reelection all have my undying respect for the manner in which they have stood steadfast in defense of the Constitution, the country, and their principles in the face of brutal, withering, and unwarranted attack by their party's leadership and rank and file.

All of them have repeatedly rejected and denounced publicly, unequivocally, and fiercely the Republican "Big Lie" that the 2020 presidential election was stolen and rife with fraud. They are modern-day profiles in courage.

They all embody John F. Kennedy's dictum that "sometimes party loyalty demands too much."

Like many Members of Congress, in the course of my service I have found often that vigorous debate and acceptance of different views, if allowed to be heard, can result in socially transformative and life-affirming legislation, such as the 1964 Civil Rights Act, the 1965 Voting Rights Act, and the 1994 Violence Against Women Act.

Some might think it surprising for a member of an opposing party to go against the convention of non-interference when one's adversary is in the process of inflicting harm upon itself.

I have chosen to ignore this convention because I am a firm believer in the promise of a more perfect union.

And I believe in America and its future.

Our children listen to and absorb what we say and do.

We cannot let them see the brutalization of voices that are telling the truth about January 6 and the attack on the Citadel of Democracy without defending those voices.

I believe these persons are patriots and I join them in my affection for the written values of this nation evidenced in our Constitution.

I am a constitutional patriot who believes Bush, ROMNEY, CHENEY have put America first.

Congresswoman CHENEY, the House Republican Conference Chair, has drawn fire for being unrelenting in her defense of constitutional government and for not backing down one iota from her claim that the domestic insurrection led by terrorists who stormed the U.S. Capitol on January 6, 2021, for the avowed purpose of disrupting Congress from

performing its constitutionally mandated duty to tally the votes cast by presidential electors and announce the results to the nation and the world was the intentional result of Donald Trump's handiwork:

The President of the United States summoned this mob, assembled the mob, and lit the flame of this attack. Everything that followed was his doing. None of this would have happened without the President. The President could have immediately and forcefully intervened to stop the violence. He did not. There has never been a greater betrayal by a President of the United States of his office and his oath to the Constitution.

We cannot ignore the fact that these domestic terrorists were intending to kill officers of the Congress, the Vice-President, other Members, and law enforcement officers if need be.

Sen. ROMNEY of Utah, a state carried by Trump by more than 20 percentage points and the 2012 Republican presidential nominee, is the only Republican senator who voted to convict and remove Trump from office for high crimes and misdemeanors. Twice.

Former President George W. Bush was one of the first Republicans to congratulate President-elect Joe Biden and Vice-President-elect KAMALA HARRIS on their election victory and has stated that the GOP is embarking on a "suicide path" with its adherence to the Big Lie and flirtation with the idea of forming a congressional "Anglo-Saxon Caucus."

More Republican leaders are needed to join this "Chorus of the Courageous," to put country over party, and to do their part to preserve and keep real the American boast that this is a land of government of, by, and for the people.

At several moments in our Nation's past, men and women of principle, courage, and unyielding commitment to the Nation's founding ideals have stood forward at moments of maximum peril and danger in defense of the country's enduring values and principles.

Men like Congressman L. Brooks Hayes of Arkansas, who alienated powerful governor Orval E. Faubus during the 1957 integration crisis when he refused to support Faubus' effort to keep the Little Rock public schools racially segregated.

Or like U.S. Sen. Barry Goldwater, R-Ariz., U.S. House Minority Leader John Rhodes, R-Ariz., and U.S. Senate Minority Leader Hugh Scott, R-Pa., who went to the White House to tell Richard Nixon, the winner of one of the greatest landslide victories in history, that he must resign, or he would be impeached by the House of Representatives and convicted by the Senate.

Or women like U.S. Sen. Margaret Chase Smith of Maine, the first woman to serve both the House and the Senate and the first Republican senator to denounce the demagogue Sen. Joe McCarthy during the height of the Red Scare. In her famous "Declaration of Conscience" speech to the Senate, she said:

"Those of us who shout the loudest about Americanism in making character assassinations are all too frequently those who, by our own words and acts, ignore some of the basic principles of Americanism." [. . .]

"It is high time we stopped thinking politically as Republicans and Democrats about elections and started thinking patriotically as Americans about national security based on individual freedom."

In perpetuating Trump's Big Lie, Republican leaders are cravenly choosing narrow partisan interests over the national interest.

They are rejecting the wisdom of the founding father of conservatism, the English statesman Sir Edmund Burke, who said:

[The national state] is to be looked on with other reverence; because it is not a partnership in things subservient only to the gross animal existence of a temporary and perishable nature. It is a partnership in all science; a partnership in all art; a partnership in every virtue, and in all perfection. As the ends of such a partnership cannot be obtained in many generations, it becomes a partnership not only between those who are living, but between those who are living, those who are dead, and those who are to be born.

Burke understood, as did conservative statesmen, political leaders, and scholars that an elected official's duty was not simply to be an "instructed delegate," parroting and following their constituents' temporary and inchoate passions, but also to be an "enlightened trustee" bringing experience and judgment to elevate and inform the public discourse and understanding.

What is needed today is a semblance of the will and courage of Abraham Lincoln, the greatest Republican of all. In his famous 1860 Cooper Union Address, Lincoln exhorted and inspired adherents to hold true to their beliefs in equality and that slavery was a moral evil:

What will convince that we do not threaten their property? This and this only: cease to call slavery wrong and join them in calling it right. All they ask, we can grant, if we think slavery right. All we ask, they can grant if they think it wrong. Right and wrong is the precise fact upon which depends the whole controversy. Thinking it wrong, as we do, can we yield?

Let us not grope for some middle ground between right and wrong. Let us not search in vain for a policy of don't care on a question about which we do care. Nor let us be frightened by threats of destruction to the government.

Let us have faith that right makes might, and in that faith, let us, to the end, dare to do our duty[.]

This is the moral and political courage that is so conspicuous by its absence in Republican leaders today. America's strength lies in the ability of everyone—Democrats, Republicans, and independents—to speak truth loudly and proudly in the face of adversity, and to power.

HONORING ERIC MCCLURE

HON. H. MORGAN GRIFFITH

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 7, 2021

Mr. GRIFFITH. Madam Speaker, I rise in honor of Eric Wayne McClure of Abingdon, Virginia, who died on May 2, 2021 at the age of 42. Mr. McClure was a longtime NASCAR driver and owner.

Mr. McClure was born on December 11, 1978 and was a native of Chilhowie, Virginia. Racing was part of his family: his uncle Larry was an owner of the Morgan-McClure Motorsports team. Eric McClure graduated from Emory & Henry College. He began his racing career in 2003; throughout its duration, he made 288 starts in the Xfinity Series and three

starts in the NASCAR Cup Series. His best finish came in 2013 at Daytona, when he placed eighth in the Xfinity Series season opener. Health challenges ended his driving career in 2016. He also formed Martin-McClure Racing in 2015 as an owner with former driver Hal Martin. The team won two races in the K&N Pro Series with drivers Chad Finchum and Austin Cindric.

Mr. McClure is survived by his parents Jerry and Sue McClure; his sister Emily Brandt and her husband Robert; mother of his children Miranda McClure; and his seven daughters Mabreigh, Maryleigh, Mirabella, Merritt, Myanna, Meraline, and Melania. He is also survived by his special friend Keira Tibbs and her two daughters. I offer my condolences on their loss.

HONORING ANNIE ORSINI AS
IOWAN OF THE WEEK

HON. CYNTHIA AXNE

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 7, 2021

Mrs. AXNE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in honoring Annie Orsini, Assistant Principal at Westridge Elementary School and Jordan Creek Elementary School in West Des Moines, as Iowan of the Week.

Assistant Principals across Iowa's Third Congressional District and our entire country play a critically important role in the overall success of the schools where they serve—working tirelessly to foster strong relationships between the school and the community, establish a positive and inclusive learning environment for students, make sure parents are informed and involved, effectively lead both instructional and support staff, monitor the day-to-day logistical operations of their educational facilities, and more. An Assistant Principal's plate is always full, always being added to, and often includes a plethora of 'other duties as assigned' tasks to complete. Our schools, students, and communities all benefit from their dedication to making a positive impact on early education.

In Annie's case, her efforts are doubled as she serves as Assistant Principal for two elementary schools. With roughly 1,500 students and families and approximately 125 instructional and support staff under her care, she has a big job to tackle every single week. Whether it's mentoring teachers, analyzing data to create impactful plans, addressing logistical and operational issues such as transportation and scheduling, working on extra- and co-curricular programs, or nurturing positive peer relationships between students, her days are filled with meeting the needs of others. She sets the vision, inspires others, maximizes available resources, and constantly innovates in order to create an optimal learning environment for students and staff.

Annie is an educator who truly believes not only in the power of teaching and empowering kids to learn, but also in the very real impact effective teaching has on the system as a whole. Her efforts extend beyond improving more traditional classroom instruction of subjects like math, English, and history to include

social emotional learning and addressing mental health. She's working with staff on efforts that help kids get organized, show empathy, make decisions, see other people's perspective, and more. In being more intentional about nurturing both the head and the heart, Annie is creating environments in which students can feel safe, special, and develop their unique gifts before striking out into the world.

Throughout the last year, the COVID-19 pandemic has placed incredible burdens on many areas of our society, and few places have been as directly challenged as our schools. Originally planned for implementation over three years, Annie and her team had to roll out a scaled-up online learning program in only six months. They had to figure out how to get kids to school safely and keep them safe while they were in the classroom, and neither challenge came with a playbook. Time and again, Assistant Principals like Annie have been called upon to work even harder than usual to best support students, educators, support staff, families, and their communities as everyone navigates the global health crisis.

For that reason amongst others, I am proud to support a House Resolution calling for April 5th–9th to be recognized as National Assistant Principals Week. These folks deserve our thanks and this opportunity for all Americans to reflect on their meaningful contributions to our communities.

For nearly two decades, Annie Orsini has dedicated herself to furthering the growth and achievement of young students, teachers, and local schools. Her passion is clear and inspiring. Each day she makes a difference, and our future is brighter because of her efforts. I am proud to recognize her as our Iowan of the Week.

IN RECOGNITION OF DEPUTY
CHIEF JIMMY HUGHES ON RE-
CEIVING THE 2020 ROBERT JACK-
SON MEMORIAL AWARD

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 7, 2021

Mr. HUDSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Deputy Chief Jimmy Hughes on receiving the 2020 Robert Jackson Eury Memorial Award.

Deputy Chief Hughes started his career with the Concord Police Department in 1998 as a patrol officer. He rose through the ranks before being promoted to Deputy Chief in 2019 by CPD Chief Gary Gacek, and previously served with CPD in the Special Investigations Unit, Criminal Investigations, and the Office of Management & Planning. He was an original member of the SWAT team, where he also served as SWAT commander. Jimmy is a graduate of the Police Executive Research Forum—Senior Management Institute for Police—Session 67 and a 1998 graduate of Pfeiffer University with a BS in Business Management/Finance.

Throughout his career, Deputy Chief Hughes has worked to establish relationships and partnerships with the community, fellow law enforcement officers, and criminal justice

professionals. Jimmy is hard working, driven, and has said that he attributes his success and longevity to the Golden Rule, treating people the way he wants to be treated. Deputy Chief Hughes is married and has five children. In his spare time, Jimmy enjoys restoring classic vehicles.

The Robert Jackson Eury Memorial Award is presented in memory of Robert Jackson Eury, a man who lost his life in the line of duty while serving as a Cabarrus County law enforcement officer. This award keeps Mr. Eury's legacy alive through officers who share his same admirable and commendable spirit in Cabarrus County. Deputy Chief Jimmy Hughes fits the mold of esteemed law enforcement officers in our community set by Robert Eury.

Madam Speaker, please join me today in congratulating Deputy Chief Jimmy Hughes for receiving the 2020 Robert Jackson Eury Memorial Award. We all wish him well as he continues to make a positive impact in our community.

IN RECOGNITION OF HONORING
THE MILITARY SPOUSES OF
CAMBRIA AND SOMERSET COUN-
TIES

HON. JOHN JOYCE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 7, 2021

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the military spouses of Cambria and Somerset Counties and to commemorate the 12th Annual Military Spouse Appreciation Day Ceremony in Johnstown, Pennsylvania.

In 1984, President Ronald Reagan established that the Friday before Mother's Day would be Military Spouses Appreciation Day, which honors the service and sacrifice of military spouses.

Like their partners in uniform, military spouses also answer the call to serve our nation. Their unwavering commitment to our servicemembers and families is a key part of America's story and success.

As the husband of a Naval officer, I understand firsthand the challenges that many military spouses face, and I am incredibly grateful for their role in supporting our Armed Forces and the defense of our Nation.

Today's ceremony, made possible by the Johnstown Veteran Community Initiatives, Wessel & Company, and the American Red Cross, is a well-deserved opportunity to recognize these outstanding Pennsylvanians who have sacrificed so much.

On behalf of Pennsylvania's 13th Congressional District, it is my privilege to honor the military spouses of Cambria and Somerset Counties and to thank them for their service and sacrifice for our Nation. On Military Spouse Appreciation Day and every day of the year, I ask that Pennsylvanians join me in praying for the wellbeing and perseverance of our local military families—as well as for the peace and safety of our Nation.

IN HONOR OF NEW HAMPSHIRE'S
CITY AND TOWN CLERKS**HON. CHRIS PAPPAS**

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 7, 2021

Mr. PAPPAS. Madam Speaker, I rise today during Municipal and Town Clerks Appreciation Week to honor New Hampshire's City and Town Clerks for the hard work that they do each and every day to ensure our local governments run smoothly and that our citizens get the services they need.

Municipal clerks deliver important public services and each year interact with hundreds of members of their community. Whether maintaining public records, registering motor vehicles, licensing dogs and other pets, or administering local elections, chances are you've relied on your local clerk more than once in the last year and on countless occasions throughout your life.

During this pandemic, we've asked city and town clerks to go above and beyond under incredibly difficult circumstances. The COVID-19 pandemic necessarily shut down many aspects of society in order to keep our families and communities safe. But the work of a clerk must continue to ensure that citizens are served and that the wheels of local government continue to move forward.

Administering an election in the best of times is incredibly challenging. Doing so in a pandemic meant clerks had to rewrite the playbook and develop and implement new best practices on short notice. New Hampshire residents voted in record numbers last fall, and even with an unprecedented number of ballots cast early and by mail, our elections ran as smoothly as ever because of the dedication and hard work of our municipal clerks. Providing services and maintaining vital records in the best of times is complex and time consuming. Doing so in a pandemic meant clerks needed to adapt to meet the needs of their neighbors to do their job while keeping residents safe. These are no small feats, and we are grateful.

The New Hampshire City and Town Clerks Code of Ethics states: "Town and city clerks are elected and/or appointed by the citizens who have the utmost trust and faith in the clerk's ability to fairly and honestly serve their community. Let us all live up to that trust with honor and dignity." Over the last year, our municipal clerks have indeed lived up to that trust and performed their duties with honor and dignity throughout New Hampshire.

On behalf of my constituents in New Hampshire's First Congressional District, I want to thank our municipal clerks for their dedication to New Hampshire and convey the thanks of a grateful state for their continued public service.

HONORING ANNIE LOPEZ

HON. GREG STANTON

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 7, 2021

Mr. STANTON. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the lifetime achievement of Annie Lopez, a nationally recognized artist and com-

munity leader in Arizona. A pioneer of the Phoenix art scene, Ms. Lopez shattered barriers to elevate the work of local and Latino artists across our state, and her living legacy deserves to be etched in our historical record for all to remember.

At a young age, she discovered her passion and vision for the arts. In 1982, Ms. Lopez became a member of the Movimiento Artístico del Rio Salado (MARS), a nationally acclaimed Chicano Arts organization. Ms. Lopez made it her mission to re-define how Chicano art is perceived in the broader art community. She became an immediate sensation, captivating audiences through her storytelling focused on her own experiences in Arizona and shared family heritage. Ms. Lopez proudly wears her heritage on her sleeve—and she translated that passion literally with her most recent work, hand-crafted dresses made from stitched-together prints on tamale paper that dawn excerpts of Arizona's SB 1070 and her grandparents' immigration cards. Through her art, she starts a dialogue about racism, stereotypes, and the local art world—making poignant statements about Latino culture with her unmatched sense of humor.

A fourth-generation Arizonan, Ms. Lopez has always been a relentless advocate for our community. She has served as a board member for MARS, and as a panelist for the City of Phoenix and the Arizona Commission on the Arts. Ms. Lopez has exhibited her work in venues across the nation, including the Smithsonian Institution, the National Museum of Mexican Art in Chicago, the Phoenix Art Museum, Tucson Museum of Art, and the Arizona State University Art Museum. In the beginning of 2020, in recognition of her artistic excellence, Ms. Lopez was the first Latina artist to have her work displayed in the National Museum of Women in the Arts in Washington, D.C.—cementing her legacy as one of the greatest artists Phoenix has ever known.

Ms. Lopez has given all her time, heart and soul to the betterment of Phoenix and Arizona. She has inspired so many young artists to achieve their highest aspirations, and those who learn from her enter the world with a greater appreciation for Chicano art history.

I humbly rise to extend my heartfelt gratitude and appreciation to Ms. Lopez for immense contributions to our state. A dedicated artist, advocate, and community servant, her life's work remains a local favorite in Phoenix, and I wish her the best as she continues to create a legacy that will be felt by Arizonans for generations to come.

HONORING ECOS' ESSENTIAL
WORKERS**HON. MARILYN STRICKLAND**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 7, 2021

Ms. STRICKLAND. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor ECOS' dedicated essential workers from the sustainable manufacturing facility located in Lacey, Washington, in the 10th Congressional District.

Family-owned, women-owned, and operated since 1967, ECOS is known for being a pioneer of environmentally friendly and sustainable cleaning products. In addition to its facility in the South Sound, ECOS operates manufac-

turing plants across our nation, employing hundreds of Americans. Just this month, ECOS officially became a climate positive brand, stepping up as an environmental leader in Washington, and across the country, by regenerating more natural resources than it consumes.

Not only does ECOS play a leading role in the cleaning products industry as a climate positive manufacturer and embody a bold vision for a sustainable future, ECOS has also been an essential business in the fight against COVID-19. Since the start of the pandemic, ECOS' essential workers have been working around the clock to manufacture sustainable cleaning supplies.

Madam Speaker, I am proud that ECOS essential workers represent my district and my community in the South Sound. I want to personally thank and recognize them for their dedication and patriotism in making safe and eco-friendly cleaning products throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. They are the frontline heroes that are powering our region and our nation as we recover, rebuild, and emerge from this pandemic on stronger, more sustainable footing. For all of these reasons, it is my privilege to recognize the tremendous contributions of ECOS' essential workers.

EXPLANATION REGARDING
COSPONSORING A BILL**HON. BRAD SHERMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 7, 2021

Mr. SHERMAN. Madam Speaker, it's appropriate for me to republish my statement of March 11, 2019 on the meaning of cosponsoring legislation. Much of that statement was a republication of my statement of September 29, 2010, as I've maintained a consistent policy on this issue. The following is a republication of my statement of March 11, 2019.

"Madam Speaker, on Wednesday, September 29, 2010, stated for the RECORD:

'Madam Speaker, I wish to clarify that when I cosponsor a bill, it does not necessarily mean that I agree with every part of it. At a minimum, my cosponsorship indicates that I support moving the bill forward through the legislative process, including being marked up in committee, and if sent to the floor by the relevant committee(s), then subject to consideration and amendment on the floor.'

Let me reiterate that 2010 statement and provide additional background. I believe in the legislative process. I believe bills are improved during committee mark-ups and by consideration of amendments on the floor. The effect of cosponsoring a bill is to signal to the relevant committee chair(s) that I believe the bill should be marked-up in committee, a process that may well improve the bill (and in some cases may make the bill worse). When I decide to cosponsor a bill after it has completed the committee process, I do signal to the Speaker and Rules Committee that I believe the bill should be considered on the floor, and almost always under an open rule."

CELEBRATING THE WORTHY BOYS
AND GIRLS CAMP

HON. RALPH NORMAN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 7, 2021

Mr. NORMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the honorable work of the Worthy Boys and Girls Camp in Rock Hill, South Carolina.

Since 1950, the Worthy Boys and Girls Camp has provided a week-long opportunity for York County youth to experience the outdoors each summer. It is the only free overnight camp in the area, planned and organized entirely by the Rock Hill Police Department. Through a variety of sports activities and trainings, children build upon their strengths to improve individual self-esteem, develop new interpersonal skills, and gain a greater appreciation for their surrounding community.

Aside from providing a safe and supportive environment, camp staff instill in young boys and girls a sense of consistent teamwork, commitment, and sharing. Nearly 200 children are exposed to new ideas, places, and friendships every summer that will teach them lessons they'll carry forward through life.

The Worthy Boys and Girls Camp is a shining example of the sense of community felt across Rock Hill.

Locals enjoy supporting the camp through their donations and various volunteer efforts. Week-long sessions are staffed by police officers, department staff members, and volunteers of all ages who dedicate long hours and resources to ensuring the camp's continued success. Many police officers who attended the program as students, like Rock Hill Police Chief Chris Watts, now serve as camp counselors.

The lifechanging work of the Worthy Boys and Girls Camp has created positive relationships between local law enforcement officers and youth for decades. The camp plays an integral role in developing Rock Hill's youngest talent into promising leaders. I congratulate the Worthy Boys and Girls Camp on a successful 72 years, and I look forward to watching them serve our community's children in the future.

IN RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL
NURSES WEEK

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 7, 2021

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize National Nurses Week, a celebration to acknowledge our nurses for their unwavering courage, hard work and dedication. Our frontline heroes have been at the forefront of this global pandemic, and their sacrifice is well-deserving of recognition.

For many healthcare workers, this past year has been the toughest challenge of their career. Despite these unprecedented obstacles, they have continued to show bravery and selflessness by risking their own health to provide patients with the utmost care.

Along with the fear of the unknown and the rigorous work schedule, our frontline line work-

ers have made huge personal sacrifices as well. Despite living with the fear of contracting COVID-19 themselves or potentially bringing the virus home to their loved ones; these healthcare workers still manage to do their jobs and protect our communities.

In celebration of National Nurses Week, I encourage everyone to take the time to thank our nurses for choosing selflessness over self-preservation and rising to the challenge of COVID-19. Therefore, Madam Speaker, I ask that you rise with me to celebrate National Nurses Week.

IN RECOGNITION OF DAVID
ELLIOT

HON. TERESA LEGER FERNANDEZ

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 7, 2021

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor David Elliot from Taos, New Mexico. On Wednesday, April 28, 2021, President Biden delivered his first address to a Joint Session of Congress, 100 days into his first term.

When President Biden took the oath of office, he pledged that help was on the way. Thanks to our work together to enact the American Rescue Plan, help is finally here.

The hardworking people in New Mexico and all across the country have also shown us what true community looks like. David is one of those community heroes.

In a typical year, I would invite him to join me in the House Chamber for the Joint Address. COVID-19 safety protocols mean this year's in-person attendance will be limited and we will be watching from our beautiful New Mexico. But I did not want to miss this important opportunity to honor David.

David's commitment to serving others is inspiring. His work to bring people and organizations together to establish the Enchanted Circle of Community Organizations Active in Disaster is the embodiment of community. The Enchanted Circle COAD helped others in Taos, Colfax, Santa Fe counties and beyond. They have donated millions of dollars directly and in kind to their neighbors. During the initial phases of the COVID-19 response, David also served as the Deputy Director of the NM State Emergency Operations Center. His passion for emergency management has also led him to serve his community as a volunteer firefighter, volunteer Fire Chief, and as Emergency Management Coordinator for Taos and Santa Fe County.

David pointed out to me that he was honored to view this address as my guest on behalf of the countless New Mexicans, businesses, non-profits, and organizations who donated their time, effort, and money to help New Mexico recover during this extremely difficult time.

I'm proud to invite him as my virtual guest to the Presidential Address. He truly represents the best that New Mexico has to offer, and I thank him for his selflessness and life-saving work.

IN RECOGNITION OF VICKIE
THOMAS

HON. RASHIDA TLAIB

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 7, 2021

Ms. TLAIB. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding contributions of award-winning journalist Vickie Thomas, a proud daughter of Michigan's 13th Congressional District.

Ms. Thomas was raised in Highland, Park Michigan and first became interested in journalism as a student at Detroit Henry Ford High School. She went on to graduate with honors, earning her degree in broadcast journalism from Wayne State University. Ms. Thomas is best known in southeast Michigan as the voice of WWJ NewsRadio, where she reported on local news and events.

Ms. Thomas' work has garnered local and national accolades. She has earned awards from the Detroit Press Foundation, the Michigan Association of Broadcasters, the Associated Press, and the National Association of Black Journalists. Ms. Thomas is a recipient of the national "Gabriel Award" from UNDA-USA for the WWJ Black History Month Series "The African-American Church: The Heart and Soul of Metro Detroit's Black Community." She is a member of the National Association of Black Journalists.

Please join me in paying tribute to Vickie Thomas's numerous achievements and hard work in bringing news and stories of local interest to the people of southeast Michigan.

RECOGNIZING CINCO DE MAYO

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 7, 2021

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the holiday of Cinco de Mayo commemorating the victory of the Mexican Army 1862 over France at the Battle of Puebla during the Franco-Mexican War.

The fifth day of May, or Cinco de Mayo, is a special day because it represents the importance of freedom, liberty and determination for the people of Mexico and for Mexican-Americans.

It was on that day, May 5, 1862, that untrained, outnumbered, and outgunned Mexican forces—determined to protect their land—successfully defended the town of Puebla against the French.

The quest for an independent Mexico started on September 16, 1810, when the people of Mexico, following the will to become a free nation, refused to submit to Spanish rule.

The struggle went on for 10 years.

Finally, in 1821, the first independent Mexican government was established.

But being an independent nation was not easy.

Over the years, Mexico received economic support from several nations, France and England among them.

Later on, even Spain supported the new country.

Thus, Mexico became heavily indebted to foreign powers.

Due to ongoing political unrest caused by many groups struggling for power, Mexico was not able to pay back the loans.

On July 17, 1861, President Benito Juarez issued a moratorium in which all-foreign debt payments would be suspended for a period of two years, with the promise that after this period, payments would resume.

In 1862, France, Spain, and England dispatched their fleets to Mexican shores pursuing not only money but also land rights as payment for their loans.

A government representative greeted them and explained that Mexico acknowledged its debts but had no funds to pay them.

They were offered payment warrants in exchange.

The Spaniards and the British decided to accept the warrants and withdrew from the scene.

But the French government's representative did not accept the offer and ordered his troops to invade the country and head toward Mexico City, the nation's capital.

They had to cross through the state of Puebla to get to the capital.

Mexican President Benito Juarez reacted immediately and prepared the defense.

He commanded Ignacio Zaragoza, a young and brave General, to fortify the City of Puebla and repel the French invaders.

The battle was by no means even.

France, under Louis Napoleon's rule, had the most world's powerful army, and sent more than six thousand men to invade Mexico.

But the courage and the love of freedom impelled the Mexican people to fight back.

General Ignacio Zaragoza led 5,000 ill-equipped Mestizo and Zapotec Indians called Zacapoaxtla.

On the 5th of May 1862, the forts of Loreto and Guadalupe, in the city of Puebla, became the scene of the historic defeat of the great army of France.

Against overwhelming odds, they managed to drive the enemy back, achieving a total victory over the best trained and equipped soldiers in the world and ending the era of European domination of the Americas.

For Mexico, this day has come to represent a symbol of Mexican unity.

In the United States, Cinco de Mayo is also a celebration of the rich cultural heritage Mexican Americans have brought to the United States.

Hispanics are the fastest-growing minority group in the United States.

According to the most recent data available, the estimated Hispanic population in the U.S. is 57.5 million—constituting 17.8 percent of our nation's population.

Hispanics now own a record number of small businesses—1.6 million, with annual revenues of more than \$221 billion.

Small businesses create two-thirds of American jobs, and the fastest-growing small business sector is Latino-owned firms.

Today, there are 52 Hispanic Members in the United States Congress, including 6 Senators and 46 House Members, many of whom are Mexican-American, representing constituencies in all regions of the country, from California to New York, from Arizona to Illinois, from Colorado to Florida.

These gains and numbers tell us that Hispanics are a driving force in our country—economically, socially and politically.

Hispanics share the common goals with all other Americans of freedom, opportunity, and a chance to build a better life.

In pursuing these aspirations, Hispanics have made important contributions to life in the United States in the fields of culture, sports, entertainment, business enterprise, science, politics and others.

Today, millions of Americans will join our neighbors to the south in celebrating Cinco de Mayo.

On this day, we are reminded that all people—regardless of their race, color, or gender—have enriched cultures and are worthy of respect and self-determination.

I am happy to be here today to celebrate this momentous day and to recognize the values, traditions, and positive contributions of the Mexican culture.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF MARK ANTHONY MAZZONE

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 7, 2021

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Mark Anthony Mazzone, who passed away on Tuesday, April 20 at North Mississippi Medical Center Hospice. I join his family, friends, and loved ones in mourning his loss.

Mark Anthony, also known as Curly, proudly owned WFC Automotive. He was an avid NASCAR fan. He loved the outdoors, spending his free time fishing, boating, and camping. He was a devout Catholic and was dedicated to his faith.

Left to cherish his memory are wife, Pam Castle Mazzone; stepdaughter, Whitney; daughter, Margeoux; and stepson John.

I am thankful for the life and service of Curly Mazzone and join his loved ones in celebrating his life.

HONORING MRS. EULA V. POLK

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 7, 2021

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable

individual, Mrs. Eula V. Polk, on her 109th Birthday.

Eula was one of ten children, born to Richard and Frankie Owens-Brown in Terry, MS, on May 24, 1912.

She grew up working on her family farm where they grew their own food. They had cattle, chicken, turkeys, geese, hogs and various vegetables. They would use spring water for drinking and cooking and rainwater for bathing and washing clothes. Her family washed clothes on a wooden washboard and boiled the white clothes on a potbelly stove until they were ready to hang outside on their picket fence to dry.

On Christmas, as a little girl, she would receive grass dolls, apples, oranges, sticks of candy, and raisins. She was always thankful and happy for her gifts.

Whether it was raining, hot, or cold, she walked to church and school. On Saturdays, she would go to the local store to buy a stick of candy for 1 cent and ice cream for 5 cents. If she was walking on the sidewalk, in town, and met a white person, she would have to get off to let them pass by before continuing on her way. Around five o'clock every evening, a bell would ring notifying black people they'd have to leave town. Upon hearing the bell, she would head home.

Life was good to Eula until she grew older and learned that there was a grave distinction between the races.

She attended Terry Grove Church School, Pilgrim Rest Church School, and Lanier High School where she completed her education.

In 1921, She united with Little Bethel CME Church in Terry, MS where she remains a member. The older she got she began to understand the meaning of service within the church. Eula proudly served as a Sunday school teacher, secretary, treasurer, usher, and choir member for twenty-five years. She also served as a stewardess and a missionary president.

Eula served her community district as a treasurer, zone leader, stewardess, and worship leader. She has served countless times as a conference delegate for her church.

In 1940, she was united in holy matrimony to Eddie Lee Polk. Together they raised two children, Willie James and Moses Lee.

Since 1949, she has been a member of the Heroines of Jericho, Grand Lodge 353. In May 2012, she received an honorary doctorate from Mt. Eva Foundation Theological Seminary in Terry, MS.

On her 100th birthday, she received birth-day greetings from President Barack Obama and First Lady Michelle Obama.

Eula is blessed that God has allowed her to see fourteen grandchildren, thirty-five great grandchildren and eleven great-great grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Mrs. Eula V. Polk on her 109th Birthday.